



Incorporating Multiple Viewpoints Checklist

Use this checklist to help assess whether your program is supportive of multiple viewpoints and perspectives, and to help youth enrich their perspectives on critical issues while building communication skills.

Supportive Practice	Currently Doing	Will Consider Doing
Discussions and Debates (Listening and Speaking Skills)		
Establish a safe environment and set ground rules for respectful listening and discussions.		
Have students develop and sign a pledge regarding civil discourse and respectful conversations.		
Before a discussion, ask students to complete an anonymous survey to gather individual opinions and perspectives.		
As the facilitator, ask probing, but non-judgmental questions that explore the reasoning behind opinions or convictions.		
Use a combination of small and large group discussion formats.		
Allow for disagreement and grant equal time for those with opposing views.		
Assign students to different sides of a debate to ensure they consider opposing arguments.		
Have different students facilitate or moderate discussions over time.		
Other:		
Research and Investigation (Reading Skills)		
Have students research both sides of an issue and make a chart comparing positions.		
Have students read articles or media accounts of an issue and separate fact from opinion.		
Use articles or media accounts of an issue and ask students to identify the political orientation or possible bias of the author.		
Other:		
Responding to Issues (Writing Skills)		
Ask students to write journal entries about an issue so all students can have an opportunity to express perspectives, especially those who may be hesitant to speak out in front of peers.		
Ask students to write letters or design flyers to advocate for their stance on issues. Post these around the classroom and compare and discuss.		
Give a writing prompt in which students must take the opposing view and make their case.		
Other:		